

THIS IS AN OFFICIAL WEST VIRGINIA HEALTH ADVISORY #234

Distributed via the WV Health Alert Network – June 1, 2026



HEALTH ADVISORY #234

**Increased Vigilance for Travel-Associated Infectious Diseases
During Summer 2026 Mass Gatherings**

TO: West Virginia Healthcare Providers, Hospitals, and Other Healthcare Facilities

**FROM: Shannon McBee, MPH, CHES State Epidemiologist, West Virginia Department of Health,
Bureau for Public Health**

DATE: June 1, 2026

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS: Please distribute to community health providers, hospital-based physicians, infection control preventionists, laboratory directors, and other applicable partners

OTHER RECIPIENTS: Please distribute to association members, staff, etc.

During the months of June and July 2026, West Virginia is expected to experience increased travel and tourism associated with several large events, including the **2026 FIFA World Cup, Independence Day celebrations, 2026 National Scout Jamboree**, and other regional gatherings.

Healthcare providers should maintain heightened awareness for travel-associated, emerging, and seasonal infectious diseases, including but not limited to measles, influenza, mpox, hepatitis A, dengue, chikungunya, and malaria. Increased travel and population movement may elevate the risk of disease importation and transmission.

This Health Advisory serves as a reminder to healthcare providers and laboratorians to promptly report outbreaks, communicable diseases, unusual conditions, and emerging infectious diseases in accordance with the [West Virginia Legislative Rule for Reportable Diseases, Events and Conditions \(64CSR7\)](#).

To support enhanced surveillance activities, healthcare facilities are encouraged to include **"PUBH26"** in the chief complaint field when applicable. The West Virginia Department of Health is also monitoring the use of **ICD-10 code Y93.82 (Activity, spectator at an event)** to assist with event-related surveillance efforts.

Situations that should be reported to public health include:

- Outbreaks or clusters of disease (immediately reportable to the local health department)
- Reportable diseases as defined by 64CSR7
- Unusual conditions or emerging infectious diseases (reportable within 24 hours to the local health department)

Early recognition and reporting of infectious diseases are critical to protecting public health and supporting timely investigation and response activities. Additional resources can be found on our website at: <https://oepps.wv.gov/>. For questions or to report a public health concern, please contact the Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services Epidemiologist-On-Call at **(304) 558-5358**.

This message was directly distributed by the West Virginia Bureau for Public Health to local health departments and professional associations. Receiving entities are responsible for further disseminating the information as appropriate to the target audience.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance. Warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation. May not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation. Unlikely to require immediate action.